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PAGE 01 STATE 167690 230209Z

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PAGE 02 STATE 167690 230209Z USMISSION USUN NEW YORK AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR TAGS: PREL MOPS MARR UG RW

SUBJECT: UGANDAN HELP WITH APC'S; RPF HOSTILE ATTITUDE

REF: USUN 02575

- 1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST. THE UN RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FRENCH-LED HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION IN RWANDA SEEMS TO HAVE HARDENED THE RPF ATTITUDE TOWARD UNAMIR AND POSSIBLY TOWARD AMERICANS AND NATIONALS OF OTHER COUNTRIES THAT SUPPORTED THE FRENCH INITIATIVE. POST SHOULD APPROACH THE GOU AND ASK THEM TO URGE THE RPF TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH UNAMIR, INCLUDING ALLOWING APC SHIPMENTS FROM UGANDA INTO RWANDA, AND TO NOT ALLOW RPF TROOPS TO HARASS OR IN ANY WAY THREATEN OR ENDANGER UNAMIR PERSONNEL, AMCITS, OR OTHER FOREIGN NATIONALS. POST SHOULD MAKE SAME POINTS TO LOCAL RPF REPS. SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTS FOLLOW. END SUMMARY

RPF OBSTRUCTION OF SHIPMENTS/APC'S

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PAGE 03 STATE 167690 2302092

3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT IN THE PAST FEW DAYS, THE RPF HAS BEEN HOLDING UP SHIPMENTS TO UNAMIR AND REPORTEDLY BLOCKED ENTRY INTO RWANDA OF UN APC'S TRANSFERRED FROM SOMALIA. THESE ACTIONS ARE IN APPARENT PROTEST TO THE FRENCH INITIATIVE TO INTERVENE IN RWANDA. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE RECENT REPORTS THAT THE RPF IS NOW LETTING SHIPMENTS THROUGH AND THAT SOME APC'S HAVE MADE IT INTO RWANDA, WE REMAIN CONCERNED ABOUT THE RPF'S OBSTRUCTION OF SUCH SHIPMENTS. WITH U.S.-LEASED APC'S EXPECTED TO BEGIN ARRIVING ON JUNE 23, WE DO NOT WANT TO SEE DELIVERY OF THE 50 U.S. APC'S HELD UP.

- 4. POST SHOULD ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE WHETHER THIS REMAINS A PROBLEM. POST SHOULD ALSO APPROACH THE GOU TO EXPRESS OUR CONCERN AND TO ENLIST THE SUPPORT OF THE GOU IN PERSUADING THE RPF TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH UNAMIR AND TO ALLOW FREE AND UNHINDERED TRANSIT OF THE APC'S AND OTHER UN EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES THROUGH RPF-HELD AREAS.
- 5. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOU WOULD PREFER NOT TO HAVE THE APC'S REMAIN FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME IN UGANDA. HOWEVER, IF THE RPF BLOCKS FURTHER APC SHIPMENTS, SOME U.S.-LEASED APC'S MAY BE REQUIRED TO STAY ON THE GROUND IN UGANDA LONGER THAN EXPECTED. POST SHOULD ALERT THE

GOU TO THIS POTENTIAL PROBLEM AND ASK THEM TO BE ACCOMMODATING, SHOULD UNEXPECTED DELAYS IN ONWARD DELIVERY OCCUR.

DEMAND FOR UNAMIR WITHDRAWAL/HARASSMENT OF AMCITS

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PAGE 04 STATE 167690 230209Z 6. REFTEL REPORTS TEXT OF AN RPF LETTER CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL OF UNAMIR IF THE SECURITY COUNCIL APPROVES THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FRENCH-LED INTERVENTION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT 40 OR SO FRANCOPHONE UNAMIR PERSONNEL HAVE ALREADY BEEN WITHDRAWN TO UGANDA AS A PRECAUTION AGAINST RPF RETALIATION. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT IT IS IN THE RPF'S INTEREST TO SEE UNAMIR PULL OUT AS THE FRENCH ARE COMING INTO RWANDA. UNAMIR HAS OFFERED IMPORTANT PROTECTION TO RWANDAN CIVILIANS, AND THE PLANNED ADDITIONAL UNAMIR CONTINGENTS CAN GREATLY EXPAND THAT PROTECTION AND REPLACE THE FRENCH OPERATION THAT THE RPF FINDS OBJECTIONABLE. POST SHOULD SHARE THIS ANALYSIS WITH THE GOU AND ASK THEM TO URGE THE RPF TO WITHDRAW THEIR CALL FOR A UNAMIR PULL-OUT AND INSTEAD TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH ALL UNAMIR FORCES AND PERSONNEL.

AMCIT DAVID VIOLET, AN INTERPRETER FOR UNAMIR IN KIGALI, TOLD AF/C BY PHONE THAT HE IS VERY CONCERNED FOR HIS SAFETY BECAUSE THE RPF IS VERY ANGRY OVER AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR FRENCH INITIATIVE, AND PARTICULARLY OVER OUR VOTE IN FAVOR OF UNSC RESOLUTION 929 ON JUNE 22. VIOLET SAID THAT ON JUNE 22, 4 AMCITS ATTEMPTING TO ENTER RWANDA FROM UGANDA AT THE KAGITUMBA BORDER CROSSING WERE TURNED BACK BY THE RPF AND WERE TREATED "VERY RUDELY, VERY BADLY" BY THE RPF. VIOLET OBTAINED THIS INFORMATION FROM UNAMIR PERSONNEL WHO WITNESSED THE INCIDENT AND WHO HAVE NOW RETURNED TO UNAMIR COMPOUND IN KIGALI. THE FOUR AMCITS INVOLVED WERE IDENTIFIED BY VIOLET AS JERRY FLANNERY, KENT STAPLETON, WAYNE LUCAS AND ELAINE WILLIAMS. VIOLET SAID THAT WILLIAMS WORKS FOR UNOSOM; THE OTHER THREE ARE EMPLOYEES OF AID CONTRACTOR BROWN AND CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 05 STATE 167690 230209Z

ROOT. VIOLET SAID THAT THE FOUR AMCITS WERE NOT PHYSICALLY HARMED BY THE RPF AND HAVE NOW RETURNED TO UGANDA. POST SHOULD SHARE THIS ACCOUNT WITH THE GOU AND ASK THEM TO URGE THE RPF TO CEASE ANY INTIMIDATION OR HARASSMENT OF AMERICANS OR OTHER EXPATRIATES.

- 8. POST SHOULD RAISE ALL OF THESE SAME ISSUES WITH THE LOCAL RPF REPS AND INSIST ON FULL COOPERATION WITH UNAMIR, FREE FLOW OF UNAMIR SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT, IN PARTICULAR APC'S, AND AN IMMEDIATE END TO ANY HARASSMENT OR THREATENING BEHAVIOR TOWARD AMERICANS OR OTHER AMCITS. AF WILL CALL RPF LEADERSHIP DIRECTLY TO MAKE THESE SAME POINTS.
- 9. BUJUMBURA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. CHRISTOPHER

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